Remarks

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The examiner rejected claims 11-15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,407,798 B2 Graves, et al, in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,164,018 Runge, et al.

The Graves, et al invention is for a theater that has changeable screens for purposes of showing different types of motion picture formats. There is no separation of viewing levels for different classes of patrons and only one single theater is described. This teaches away from the present invention in that the present invention is for purposes of showing different formatted motion pictures in different theaters. Graves, et al recognizes that different theater facilities are needed for different formats of motion pictures and suggest that the solution to this need is to provide for changeable screens in a single theater. The present invention also solves the need for different theater facilities for different formats of motion pictures but suggests that multiple theaters not multiple screens best answers this need.

Runge, et al, discloses a building with multiple theaters of a like kind located in the building. The theaters are for showing of a single kind of motion picture format and have a single mezzanine area with a single concession facility. Runge, et al recognizes the need for savings of the cost of construction of a theatrical structure and suggests several theaters in one single building would save on these costs. The present invention also solves this need but additionally provides for segregation of facilities for different classes of patrons and for the

showing of different formatted motion pictures in different theaters in one single building.

It is submitted that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established. To establish a prima facie case of obviousness three basic criteria must be met. First there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. MPEP 2143.

There is a lack of motivation to combine references in the prior art:

In the case <u>In Re: Rouffet</u> 149 F.3d 1350, 1357, 47 U.S.P.Q. 1453, 1457-58 (Fed.Cir. 1998) the court held in pertinent part:

There are three possible sources for a motivation to combine references: the nature of the problem to be solved, the teachings of the prior art, and the knowledge of persons of ordinary skill in the art.

The present invention solves three basic problems. First the present invention provides for the saving of construction costs (and ongoing structural costs. Second the present invention provides for different facilities for the showing of differently formatted motion pictures. Third the present invention provides for completely segregated facilities for different classes of patrons.

Runge, et al, discloses a building with multiple theaters in

order to solve the first problem, that of the saving of construction costs. However this patent fails to solve the problem of needing different formatted theaters in a single building so that the Runge invention only partially solves the problem of the savings in construction costs for a theater structure. The Graves invention does not solve the problem of savings in construction costs recognized by Runge because the Graves invention provides for only one theater structure in the building. However, the Graves invention does provide for different screening facilities in the same theater which inherently would reduce the costs of showing differently formatted motion pictures in one structure.

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In summary the Runge invention recognizes the problem of saving costs of construction of a motion picture theater but only partially solves the problem in that Runge provides for the showing of only one format of motion pictures. This would require separate buildings which defeats the solution to the problem of savings in construction costs. Graves does not recognize the problem of construction costs for a theater but does partially solve the problem by providing for different formatted motion pictures to be shown in one single theater structure.

The present invention completely solves the problem of construction cost savings for a theater by providing for multiple theaters in one single structure and for facilities to also present differently formatted motion pictures in one single structure. A further savings in construction costs would also result for the provision in the present invention to complete

segregate viewing areas for different classes of patrons.

The Runge invention does not attempt to explicitly solve the high costs of theater construction problem so there is no teaching or motivation to solve this problem. The Graves invention does not completely solve the costs of theater construction problem in that the Graves invention fails to provide for multiple theaters in one building that show differently formatted motion pictures, nor does Graves provide for completely segregated viewing facilities for different classes of patrons. The Graves disclosure does not suggest or provide motivation for completely solving the problem of construction costs of a theater by including facilities in the building that can display differently formatted motion pictures. There is no reasonable expectation of success in combining the two cited references:

The Graves invention provides for showing differently formatted motion pictures using different screens for the different formats in one theater. There is no reason to believe that this invention would successfully solve the problem of the showing of differently formatted motion pictures. The Runge invention provides for a building with several theaters for presenting motion pictures but there is no reason to believe that this structure would also permit the showing of differently formatted motion pictures successfully.

The prior art references do not teach or suggest all of the claim limitations:

The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in

the prior art, not in applicants disclosure. <u>In Re Vaeck</u> 947 F.2d 488, 20 U.S.P.Q.2d 1438 (Fed.Cir. 1991)

Nowhere in the prior art is there any suggestion for combining the two cited references. The teaching away from the present invention by Graves and the failure to recognize all of the problems solved by the present invention preclude the combining of the two cited references in any event.

Finally the breadth of the present claims are limited to the disclosures of the specification.

Clearly the present invention is the first to recognize that it is desirable to combine multiple theaters in one building and at the same time provide for the showing of different formatted motion pictures in different theaters. The present invention goes beyond this and also provides for completely separate facilities for different classes of patrons a feature not found in any known prior art.

Clearly the results produced by the present invention have long been sought in the prior art but prior to this invention have not been produced.

For all of the foregoing reasons it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and objections is requested. Allowance of claims 11 through 15 at an early date is requested.

Respectfully submitted.

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9	California on	2 2003	
10	with first class postage prepaid addressed as follows:		
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